

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04438 191528Z

62

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 IO-10 /070 W
----- 076794

R 191506Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3208

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4438

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA, SF

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN NAMIBIA

REF: STATE 268150

1. I CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY VAN DALSEN ON NOV 19 TO RAISE
INCIDENT INVOLVING ASSAULT OF REV. AND MRS. NAILENGE AND TO
REMIND HIM OF PROMISED RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE MADE LAST SEPTEMBER
2 ON NAMIBIAN DETAINEES. AIDE-MEMOIRE COVERING BOTH MATTERS
LEFT WITH HIM.

2. TO NAILENGE INCIDENT VAN DALSEN EXPRESSED DISBELIEF THAT
SOUTH AFRICAN SOLDIERS WOULD COMMIT SUCH AN ACT AND SAID SUCH
CHARGES MUST BE INVESTIGATED. I TOLD HIM MY GOVERNMENT
REQUESTED PRECISELY THIS AS WELL AS PUNISHMENT OF THOSE GUILTY
IF INCIDENT IS CONFIRMED. HE SAID HE WOULD BRING MATTER TO THE
ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.

3. REGARDING DETENTIONS, VAN DALSEN SAID HE HAD FORWARDED MY
REQUEST TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES BUT HAD RECEIVED NO REPLY.
HE FOLLOWED THIS UP WITH COMMENT THAT "THERE ARE THOSE WHO
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PAGE 02 PRETOR 04438 191528Z

REGARD THESE MATTERS AS FALLING WITHIN DOMESTIC JURISDICTION,"

WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY IS THE REAL EXPLANATION FOR THE LACK OF RESPONSE. I NOTED THAT WE REGARD PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS A MATTER OF UNIVERSAL CONCERN AND THAT IS WHY WE HAVE RAISED THE SUBJECT.

4. COMMENT: I AM NOT SANGUINE THAT WE WILL GET RESPONSE TO NAMIBIA DETENTIONS, ALTHOUGH INVESTIGATION NOW BEING CONDUCTED BY DEAN GRISWOLD IN SWA MAY STIMULATE ACTION BY SAG EITHER TO RELEASE THEM OR BRING THEM TO TRIAL. NATURE OF CHARGE IN NAILERGE CASE MAY WELL BRING ABOUT PROMPT INVESTIGATION AND DENIAL IF FACTS ARE FOUND TO BE MATERIALLY DIFFERENT.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAMIBIA, DETENTION, MILITARY PERSONNEL, HUMAN RIGHTS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR04438
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750403-0514
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751128/aaaaayvw.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 268150
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN NAMIBIA
TAGS: PINS, WA, SF, (NAILENGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006